

February

15 – East Fork Winter Hike 1pm

Meet at the South Trailhead parking area off SR 125 for a vigorous walk in the winter woods. Call Clermont County Park District Naturalist at 513-876-9013.

March

13 – Bluebirder's Meeting 10 am

13 – Butterflier's Meeting 1 pm

Learn how to monitor nest boxes in the morning or butterflies in the afternoon. For more information about these fun volunteer activities, call USACE at 513-797-6081.

20 – Sounds of Spring 6 pm

Meet at Horseman's parking lot off SR 32 to enjoy nature's springtime chorus of frogs, woodcock and owls. If skies are clear, we may be treated to telescope views of up to five planets after dark! JR

April

17 – Wildlife Badge Day 10-11:30 am OR 1-2:30 pm

Junior Girl Scouts earn their Wildlife Badge while exploring their environment through hands-on activities. Leaders register your troop now by calling USACE at 513-797-6081.

17 – Cincinnati High School Invitational Cheer on local rowers as they attempt to qualify for regional and national competitions. Contact EFSP at 513-734-4323.

24 – East Fork River Cleanup Help clean up the East Fork of the Little Miami River from canoes or shore. Call EFSP at 513-734-4323 for more information and to register.

May

1-2 – Gold Rush Days Campout Relive the Gold Rush of 1869 through gold-panning demos, old fashioned bean soup and cornbread, and down home hospitality. Regular camping fees apply. Call EFSP at 513-734-4323.

15 – Avian Adventures 10-11:30 am

Children aged 8-12 and their parents explore the bird world through hands-on activities. JR, at Visitor Center

15-16 – Midwest Junior Rowing Championship Head to head competition from some of the best mid-western teams. Contact EFSP at 513-734-4323.

June

Help clear brush, make paths wider and/or install water bars and drainage pipes to improve trail conditions in the Corps Area. Call USACE at 513-797-6091.

19 – Wet and Wild! 10-11:30 am

19 – The Greater Cincinnati Epilepsy Council Mud Volleyball Tournament Get down and dirty to help a worthwhile organization! Outstanding teams provide a very entertaining day at the beach. To register your team, call 513-721-29905.

10 – Track those Animals! 10-11:30 am

18 – Frisch's Big Boy Classic Triathlon Push yourself to the limit with this true test of endurance. Check www.hfpracing.com for more information.

31 – Insect investigations **10-11:30 am**

August

14 – Perseid Meteor Shower Astronomy Program 9-11 pm

Search the heavens for “falling stars” blazing across the night sky! Volunteers will have telescopes for this informal evening of star-gazing. An astronomy program will be presented if skies are cloudy. Meet at the Spillway Crest parking lot and walk onto the concrete strip to the viewing area. JR

September

18 – Public Lands Day Help clean up the river and lake shoreline near the dam. Great for scouts and students needing community service hours! Register by calling USACE at 513-797-6081.

25-26 – Great Outdoor Weekend

Explore **Fossils of an Ancient Sea** on Saturday or **Tremendous Trees** on Sunday during this weekend of hands-on activities at parks and nature centers of the Cincinnati area. Short activity-filled programs will begin at 10 and 11 am, 1, 2, and 3 pm each day and are geared for people of all ages, including families with children. Visitor Center Open House 9 am to 4 pm both days. **JR**

25-26 – Backpack Trek Explore East Fork State Park to learn orienteering skills in early Autumn. Call EFSP at 513-734-4323.

October

2 – Forestry Badge Day **10-11:30 am OR 1-2:30 pm**

Webelos earn their Forestry Badge while exploring their environment during hands-on activities. Leaders sign up your den now by calling USACE at 513-797-6081.

22-23 – Not Quite Halloween All the excitement of Halloween with its own special events, including “Friendship Stew”. Trick or Treat tops off the weekend! Call EFSP at 513-734-4323. Regular camping fees apply.

30-31 – 22nd Annual Halloween Campout *The* supreme park event has the thrills of Halloween mixed with the experience of fall camping. Regular fees apply, call 513-734-4323.

Attention Junior Rangers! Children aged 8-12 attending three programs marked with the **JR** symbol, plus one service project such as a clean up or trail work day earn the highly coveted *Junior Ranger Patch!* Pick up a Junior Ranger Attendance card at the US Army Corps of Engineers Visitor Center located near the dam on Slade Road. Have it stamped or signed by a Ranger at each Corps program or service project you attend. Call USACE at 513-797-6081.

Additional Activities and Opportunities

Corps of Engineers Visitor Center Located on Slade Road near the dam, it has displays about area history, flood control and natural history. Hours:

M-F 7:30 am to 3:30 pm Year round
S&S 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Spring/Fall
S&S 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Summer

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also offers programming for organized groups such as schools, scouts, 4-H clubs, home schoolers, etc. Included are a variety of topics such as Fossils, Forests, Birds, Butterflies, Water and Water Safety, Wildflowers, Winter, Lewis and Clark, Habitats, and Animal Adaptations. Call the Park Ranger at (513) 797-6081 to schedule a program.

Educators Take Note! Schedule your class or home school group now for a special **Lewis and Clark** program at the Visitor Center Mondays-Wednesdays beginning May 10, excluding May 17. Students hike a trail to experience the trials and tribulations this Army expedition faced 200 years ago. Call the Park Ranger at 513-797-6081.

Hoedown in the Park Join professional cloggers, dancers, and musicians at the public “Beach House” for old fashioned down home entertainment! Hoedowns take place twice monthly June-August. Contact EFSP at 513-734-4323 or Harkie’s Hoedowners, 513-732-CLOG.

Reservable Shelters East Fork State Park offers Turkey Ridge Picnic Area with shelter, ballfield, horseshoe pits, grills and access to a beautiful trail. Call 513-734-4323 for reservation information. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offers a shelter accommodating 60 at the Tailwater Recreation Area and a shelter accommodating 40 at the Visitor Center Overlook. Call 513-797-6081 for reservation information.

Campsites are now reservable! Call 866-OHIOPARKS to make your reservation! You make reserve a site up to six months in advance. Some sites will remain first-come, first served.

Highlights of East Fork State Park and William H. Harsha Dam and Lake

- Home to Adena and Hopewell Indians nearly 3,000 years ago. Visit the Indian Mound Picnic Area to learn more.
- The “Old Bethel M.E. Church” now sits on the site of the original log structure built in 1807. The adjacent cemetery is the resting place of President U.S. Grant’s maternal grandparents.
- The Gold Rush of 1868-69 brought many to the area seeking riches. Two mines operated by the Batavia Mining Co. produced only \$200.00 worth of gold. No traces remain of these mines.
- The area took on a new appearance in 1970 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began construction of a multi-purpose flood control dam and lake.
- The 10,580 acre park is home to a 416 site Class A campground with electric and shower houses. The 2,160 acre lake is rated at unlimited horsepower, and has excellent fishing. Hunting is permitted in selected areas of the park. Over 80 miles of hiking, and horse-back riding trails offer endless opportunities to get away from it all, including a 4.7 mile mountain bike trail.